

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are requested.

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office Action, a minor objection is raised with respect to claim 16. By the foregoing amendment, this objection has been addressed such that withdrawal of the objection is requested.

In numbered paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-11, 14-16 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0049815 (Dattatri). On page 7 of the Office Action, claims 12-13 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Dattatri document in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,924,096 (Draper et al). These rejections are respectfully traversed, because the Dattatri and Draper patents, considered individually or in the combination relied upon by the Examiner, fail to teach or suggest Applicant's present invention as set forth in independent claims 1, 10 and 15. For example, the documents relied upon by the Examiner fail to teach or suggest automated polling in a network by receiving a request for data generated by a client using an http message, and responding to the request by reformatting the data into an XML format. As such, claim 1 is allowable. Independent claims 10 and 15 are allowable for similar reasons.

Referring to Applicants' Figure 1 flowchart, an exemplary method for providing automated event polling is illustrated. The automated event polling includes the logging of data into a database on a server at step 10. Event data associated with the server can be logged for retrieval by a client application as described on specification page 3 in paragraph [0010]. In step 12 of Figure 1, a request is

received for the data from the client using an http message, and in step 14, a response is provided by reformatting the requested data into an XML format which can be transmitted to the client in step 16. Figure 2 illustrates an alternate exemplary method for automated event polling in a network on a client platform wherein an http request for data is generated, and a response is received from a database in an XML format. The data received in an XML format is then converted to a format used by client software. Automated event polling is performed using http requests. The use of http requests to the database results in synchronous data transfer.

Referring to Applicants' Figure 3 embodiment, a computer-based server 300 includes logic that receives an http request (e.g., web server 308) for data from a database of data storage 304. Logic, such as data interface 306 responds to the request by reformatting the data into an XML format so that the data can be transmitted in an XML format. A client 310 generates the http request via a client interface 312, and receives responsive data transmitted from the server 300 in an XML format.

The foregoing features are broadly encompassed by the independent claims 1, 10 and 15, and are neither taught nor suggested by the Dattatri document, considered alone or in combination with the Draper document. The Dattatri document does not teach or suggest using automated event polling, or supplying an http request to a database which responds to the request by sending data in an XML format. Rather, the Dattatri document describes a system which involves non-automated, user initiated requests, resulting in asynchronous data transfer.

Although paragraph [0012] of Dattatri describes the use of servlets communicating

across http with XML, the Dattatri document does not teach or suggest using an http request to directly access a database as occurs, for example, with the database interface 306 of Applicants' exemplary Figure 3 embodiment. The Dattatri document is directed to a user accessing data via an http request which is initiated by the user, resulting in asynchronous, non-direct, non-synchronous access to a database. Because exemplary embodiments use http messaging to operate synchronously, any need for acknowledgment messages as would be required by the Dattatri system can be avoided.

Thus, the Dattatri document fails to teach or suggest Applicants' presently claimed invention which is directed to **automated event polling**, and which includes, among other features, receiving a request for data generated by a client using an **http message and responding to the request by reformatting the data into an XML format**. Such a feature as recited in claim 1 reflects the synchronous, direct accessing of a database using an http message, a feature which is neither taught nor suggested by the Dattatri patent. Because similar features are recited in independent claims 10 and 15, these claims are also allowable over the Dattatri patent.

The Draper patent fails to overcome the deficiencies of the Dattatri patent. This patent is directed to a distributed database which uses indices into tags to track events. The Draper patent is directed to a distributed, active database, as opposed to a static database which can be accessed directly by http requests. The Draper patent is not directed to using an http request to directly access a database, and in this respect, is no more relevant to the presently claimed invention than the Dattatri patent. As such, even if there would have been motivation or suggestion to

combine the Dattatri and Draper documents in the manner suggested by the Examiner, the presently claimed invention would not have resulted. Moreover, because the Draper patent is not even directed to the use of http requests, it is respectfully submitted that there would have been no motivation or suggestion to have combined the features of the Dattatri and Draper patents to arrive at the presently claimed invention.

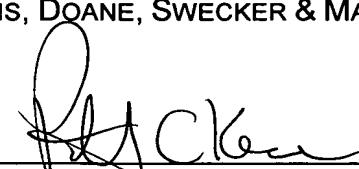
Thus, independent claims 1, 10 and 15 are allowable over the Dattatri and Draper patents. The remaining claims depend from the aforementioned independent claims and recite additional advantageous features which further distinguish over the documents relied upon by the Examiner. As such, these claims are also considered allowable.

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: November 23, 2004

By: 

Patrick C. Keane
Registration No. 32,858

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620